

A NEW *AMBRYsus* FROM SOUTH AMERICA
(HEMIPTERA, NAUCORIDAE)

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The distinctive genus *Ambrysus*, occurring from north-central United States south to central Argentina, contains approximately 75 species of aquatic, vegetation-crawling bugs. The following new species adds another entity from the largely untapped South American reservoir of these distinctive insects. It may be known as:

***Ambrysus stali*, NEW SPECIES**

General appearance: size medium for the genus, rather narrow, 9.0-9.25 mm. long, 5.0 mm. wide. Dorsum more-or-less unicolorous dark brown, often blackish on head, pronotum and scutellum.

Head: Very deeply set into pronotum in center, its postero-centrum squarely-set into pronotum. Shiny. Eyes completely flush with head surface, convergent anteriorly, black, distinctly darker than head. Head ratios are: (1) Total length to width (including eyes), 50::67 (75%); (2) Anterior distance between eyes to posterior distance, 28::43 (65%); (3) Anterior distance between eyes to inner eye length, 28::30 (93%); (4) Posterior distance between eyes to greatest length of head posterior to this line, 43::15 (35%).

Pronotum: Ratios are: (1) Width between anterior angles to width between posterior angles, 55::102 (54%); (2) Median length to greatest width, 36::100 (36%); (3) Distance between anterior and posterior angles on the same side to perpendicular distance between anterior angle and baseline of pronotum, 55::52 (95%).

Scutellum: Unicolorous, blackish; ratio of three sides, anterior and two laterals, 90::70::70.

Hemelytra: Lighter in color than remainder of dorsum, reddish-brown to blackish. Embolia long, narrow (length to width 80::20=25%), narrow anteriorly, widest at posterior end. Hemelytra narrowly exposing lateral connexiva and covering abdominal tip. Fully winged, capable of flight, wing with one "costal" cell.

Venter: Blackish anteriorly, whitish posteriorly due to heavy pelt of hydrofuge pile. Propleura fused medially, and free from posterior slope of prosternum. Connexival segments smooth-edged, I-II non-spinose, III-IV moderately spined at latero-posterior angles. Male genital process prominent, medium-sized, very broadly capitate with club much swollen. Female subgenital plate-tip of tripartite shape, the broad

central swelling flanked by two sharp tips at the postero-lateral region (see illustrations).

Legs: PROLEGS: Femur incrassate; ratio of length to greatest ventral width, 72::45 (62%); Tibia and single tarsus fused into the usual slender, moderately curved structure. MESOLEGS: Femur 2.5 mm. long, ratio of length to median ventral width 70::10 (14%); Tibia 2 mm. long, ratio of length to median ventral width 60::7 (12%), two transverse rows of spines across distal tip, second row from tip incomplete. METALEGS: Femur 2.75 mm. long, ratio of length to greatest median ventral width 80::10 (12%); Tibia 3 mm. long, ratio of length to width 100::4 (4%), three transverse rows of spines across distal end, the two non-terminal rows incomplete.

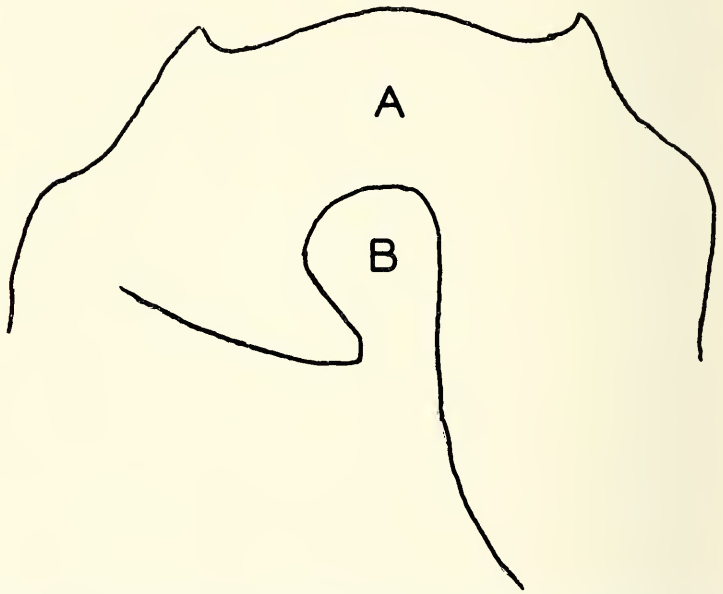


Figure 1. Ambrysus stali: (A) Terminal outline of female subgenital plate, holotype. (B) Male genital process, allotype.

Type and locality data: Holotype female, allotype male and several paratypes from FRENCH GUIANA—St. Laurent, October 1937, H. E. Hinton. Paratypes from: DUTCH GUIANA—14 November 1942, 16-19 September 1943, D. C. Geiskos; TRINIDAD, British West Indies, 27-29 October 1938, C. J. Drake; BRAZIL—Belem, 21 September 1937, H. E. Hinton—Manaos, September 1937, H. E. Hinton—Rio Candeia, 30 November 1937, H. E. Hinton.

Location of types: Robert L. Usinger collection (Berkeley, California)—holotype, allotype and paratypes from the type locality as well as from Dutch Guiana and *Belem* and *Manaos*, Brazil. Carl J. Drake collection (Ames, Iowa)—one paratype from Trinidad, B.W.I. La Rivers collection (Reno, Nevada)—paratypes from French and Dutch Guiana; from Trinidad, B.W.I.; from *Manaos* and *Rio Candéia*, Brazil. Snow Museum collection, University of Kansas at Lawrence—two paratypes from French Guiana. U.S. National Museum collection—one paratype from French Guiana. British Museum (Natural History)—one paratype from French Guiana.

Comparisons: the new species is closely related to *Ambrysus oblongulus* Montandon 1897. The differences between the two species can be summarized as:

OBLONGULUS

Male genital process parallel-sided, non-capitate. Female subgenital plate tip quadrisinuate in outline. Known only from Central America.

STALI

Male genital process strongly capitate. Female subgenital plate tip trisinuate in outline. Known from the Guianas, Trinidad and neighboring Brazil.

LITERATURE CITED

MONTANDON, A. L.

1897. Hemiptera cryptocerata. Fam. Naucoridae.—Sous-fam. Cryptocricinae. Verhandlungen zoölogische-botanische Gesellschaft Wein, 47:6-23.